

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECRET

COUNTRY **East Germany** REPORT **[REDACTED]**

SUBJECT **Planned Increase of East German Gasoline Production for Defense Purposes** DATE DISTR. **26 July 1955**

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. In order to overcome the gasoline shortage in East Germany, the East German government plans to build a gasoline plant on the site of the Lauchhammer lignite coke works.<sup>1</sup> In late May 1955, a conference was held at the Lauchhammer enterprise to which government representatives and technicians of Bau-Union Sued of the Ministry of the Interior were invited in order to discuss the technical questions involved in the construction of the planned gasoline plant. It was pointed out in this conference that the new plant was to be about the size of VEB Synthesewerk Schwarzheide.

2. On 2 June 1955, a conference was held at the Projektierungsbuero Kohle, Wallstrasse, East Berlin, in which government representatives, technicians of Bau-Union Sued, and representatives of the East German steel construction enterprises participated.

[REDACTED] the East German defense necessities made imperative the increase of (a) the capacity of all steel construction enterprises and (b) gasoline production. With respect to the latter point, [REDACTED] during 1955, construction of a new lignite combine with its own gasoline plant will be started near the Trattendorf power plant. This construction is to be carried out as a government priority order. It is to be established in a suburb of Trattendorf called Schwarze Pumpe. The East German government has approved expenditure of about one billion DME for the construction of the new combine with the gasoline plant. Bau-Union Sued was ordered to start construction of workers' barracks near Trattendorf during June 1955.

1. [REDACTED] Comment. VEB Lauchhammerwerk. [REDACTED]

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